



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER AND FORT POLK
6661 WARRIOR TRAIL, BUILDING 350
FORT POLK, LOUISIANA 71459-5339

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

AFZX-CG

FEB 01 2010

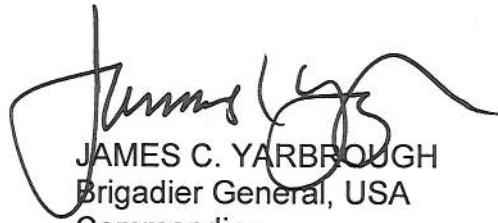
MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Presidents' Day Safety Message 2010

1. The National Safety Council statistics indicate more than 41,000 people lose their lives in motor vehicle crashes each year and over 2,000,000 suffer disabling injuries. Thanks to our situational awareness, good choices, and aggressive leadership, the JRTC and Fort Polk has been fatality free for 137 days. Each year our goal is zero fatalities, and we are currently on the right glide path. Continue the great work.
2. On 15 February 2010, we will celebrate Presidents' Day. Federal holidays and four-day weekends are occasions when the risk of accidents and fatalities is increased. The largest number of injuries and deaths that occur during long weekends are due to privately owned vehicle (POV) accidents. Over the last four years during this holiday, the Army recorded 24 POV accidents that resulted in eight fatalities. Fort Polk will not contribute to this year's numbers.
3. With the varying weather conditions, we must thoroughly plan our trips and be prepared. Avoid driving through moving water, obey the posted speed limits, reduce speeds for adverse conditions, wear your seat belts, review precautions for driving during adverse weather, take plenty of rest breaks during long trips, and use TRiPS for all of your travel plans.
4. Vehicle inspections are mandatory. Current insurance and driver's licenses are required. Successful leaders interact directly with Soldiers and their Families and guide these Soldiers to make sound judgments. Leaders at all levels should know where their subordinates are going, how far they are driving, and what steps they intend to take to mitigate risk while traveling.
5. Prior to the long weekend, leaders must present meaningful safety briefings and use Pine Tree Counseling. Strong leader interaction will ensure our Soldiers and their Families know they are our primary concern. Your vigilance in keeping our Soldiers safe is recognized and appreciated. Keep up the good work and have a safe and accident-free weekend.

*Commanders —
Engage your leaders at
every level to ensure it
Soldiers make it
back safely —*

DISTRIBUTION A +


JAMES C. YARBROUGH
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding